



Sacred Heart Catholic Church

Haiti Twinning Ministry Minutes

16th Year of Twinning with Saint Gabriel (May 10, 2023)!



2023 & 2024 Year of the Eucharist

2023-2024 Education, Nutrition, Health Care, Projects that are Source of Revenue for the School

Vision: We, the parishioners of the Sacred Heart have been called to enter in a twinning relationship with our brothers and sisters at Saint Gabriel, Haiti. Together, we follow the principals of Catholic Social Teaching to foster faith-filled relationships, self-sustainability, and an end to dependency. **Mission Statement:** End Dependency while following the principles of Catholic Social Teaching.

<http://www.sacredheartnorfolk.org/ministries/justice-andpeace/haiti-ministry/>

Tuesday, September 5th, 2023 (6:30 pm - Adjourned 7:30 pm, Commons)

HAITI SOLIDARITY MONTH

Present: Patricia Britz, William Wallace, Frank Murphy, Mary Stacy Keith-Reibell, Betty Rose Facer, & Francesca Smith

Patricia welcomed, reviewed goals, and thanked all present. The goals of this meeting are to continue planning for Annual Parish Haiti Solidarity Dinner with Presentation, Sept 24 and continue praying for St. Gabriel and the Haitian people. Patricia introduced Fr. Fitho (Pastor), Fr. Adelin, Fr. Jean Marco, and some of the St. Gabriel School Staff via PowerPoint. This is the 1th quarter of the church's fiscal year, July 2023-September 2023.

Opening Prayer: Attendees said The Haitian Sign of the Cross & William read the Haiti Solidarity Prayer. **Prayer**

Intentions: Bishop Knestout, Bishop Jean/Hinche Diocese, Fr. Paul, Fr. Fitho, the sick, elder, souls of the departed (Ellen Renn), students, teachers, administrators as they return to school. Peace with Justice in Ukraine & in the world. Also, attendees shared their intentions. **Hymn:** O Lespri Sen/O Holy Spirit—All (in keeping with Covenant/Goal 2 with SG). For **Monthly Masses for Neil Walsh**, contact Francesca. Thank you to all who are participating in offering a memorial Mass said for Neil at one of the 11 AM Sunday (streamed).

FORMATION: Solidarity [CST 101 | Solidarity - YouTube](#) 4mn/members viewed prior to meeting and reflected on 1-Corinthians 12:25-27 | If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it. Or if one part of our body is honored, all the other parts share its honor. Together you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of that body. 2-What are the root causes of the suffering of the Haitian people? What can I/we do about it? Members wrote their thoughts on Solidarity and shared with a partner. **Reflections** placed in jar on the HTM Bureau in the Commons.

September-October Calendar & Upcoming Meetings: William reviewed the calendar. See end of Minutes.

BEGINNING OF YEAR: Description of Each Fund reviewed by Patricia—**School Staff Fund**—6 teachers (8 last year) & 1 nurse (\$100 monthly/each); **Lunch Fund**—11 students (16 last year) (\$420 annually each); **Medical Fund**—\$100 monthly, medication purchased on local economy plus dental visit \$550; **Building & Outfitting Fund/Sustainable Projects**—1 set of high school books & 1 water filter system/investing in sustainable projects; **Scholarship Fund**—20 students at St. Gabriel (\$275 annually each) & 1 student at the normal school (Teacher College) (\$410 annually).

NEW: SEPTEMBER GOOD NEWS from Both Parishes: William shared: there were several birthdays at Sacred Heart Parish (SHP) & St. Gabriel Parish (SGP) & Anniversaries of friends joining HTM; **9/1/2023**—Father Kesner Joseph (1st Haitian Missionary Priest nominated to the Justice Office, Diocese of Richmond (9/1/2020)); **9/3/2023**—St. Gregory the Great Feast Day; **9/4/2023**—Labor Day in USA; **9/5/2023**—St. Teresa of Calcutta Feast Day **9/8/2023**—Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary; **9/10/2023** Ellen Renn's 6th Anniversary Remembrance (assisted with HTM financial documentation/sales); **9/11/2023**—School resumes (Pre-School (3 & 4) and Kindergarten Parish Community Center, Fr. Jacques Block Lower School (1-6), and SG Middle & High School (7-13). **Pictures** of all three school levels, 2023 Summer Project/School & Clinic were painted, 2022 Summer Project of ceiling installation in Auditorium/2 new classrooms, and 2023 Summer Camp were shown.



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NEW: September Haiti Solidarity Month Schedule: Francesca noted SH HTM will join with the Diocese of Richmond in celebrating Haiti Solidarity Month. Sept. is Solidarity Month at both SH and SG. “The Catholic Social Teaching Principle of Solidarity (#6) is about recognizing others as our brothers and sisters and actively working for their good.” (Caritas.org) SH HTM & Parish will do the following:

- Write/Pray for pen pals, students, teachers & Fr. Fitho, Fr. Jean-Carlo, & Fr. Adelin (See Pen Pal Note below).
- 9/5 HTM Meeting, Solidarity Formation Video & Reflection (Francesca)
- 9/9-17 Parish Novena to St. Joseph the Worker (Brendan) (9 days be Solidarity Week), Constant Contact, Bulletin, Prayer Chain, Buffet. POC: Brendan
- 9/16 Back To School Sale, Feed 1 Child, 1 Sale at a Time @Cherie’s yard/Flyer POC Patricia.
- 9/24 HTM Hosts Haiti Solidarity Gathering/Presentation “Bringing Hope”/Free Dinner, Live Music, Raffle (Scholarships)/4 Prizes, 4:00 pm-5:30 pm/Setup @ 2:30 pm, Continue Planning (All). See Flyer attached. POC Patricia.
- 9/23-24 Parish Solidarity Weekend (bulletin/CC flyer, calendar of activities, Haitian hymn, prayer of the faithful, altar announcement, table).

Note: September Pen Pal Notes—Francesca noted that Pen Pal notes are due by September 20, 2023 via email to her or place in Haiti Box by Blow Street. **Topics:** School Year starting; Pen Pal birthday or Fr. Fitho; remembering Fr Fitho, parishioners, students, etc. during Haiti Solidarity Month by praying for them, etc.

SAVE THE DATES:

- **Sat., Sept. 16**, Cherie’s yard, 9:00 am-2:00 pm **Back to School Sale:** Feeding 1 Child, 1 Sale at a Time
- **Sun., Sept. 24**, 4:00 pm-5:30 pm HTM hosts Parish Solidarity Gathering, Free Dinner with Presentation, Commons
- **Tues., Oct. 24**, HTM meeting, Lambi’s Call by Dr. Tom Fame, Chapters 13 & 14

Communication/Collaboration: Fr. Paul, Chrissy Bush, Diana Dorsey, Fr. Fitho Jean, Fr. Jean Carlo, Fr. Adelin, Tina Wandersee, Director of Social Ministry, Richmond Diocese, Mary Ann Collins & Mike Kassel (Eastern Vicariate Haiti Twinning Reps.), Kathy Dowdy (Haiti Education Support Team Chair), Catholic Relief Services, Dr. Tom Fame

FY 2023-2024 FUND RAISERS TO BENEFIT SAINT GABRIEL SCHOOL

Monthly Newsletters, Yard Sales, Advent Giving Tree, Free Will Donations, In Honor/Memory Donations, Small Change Collection, May & Sept. Gatherings (raffle).

Closing Prayer in Creole from *God is no Stranger*—William/Patricia & All

Next Meetings/Tuesday: Oct. 24, Nov. 14, light dinner 6:00 pm, meeting 6:30 pm-7:30 pm, opening and closing prayers: William. Guests are welcome.

	SEPTEMBER HAITI SOLIDARITY MONTH SCHOOL RESUMES
9/10-	<i>We remember Ellen Renn, HTM past member (2/16/62-9/10/17)</i>
9/3-	Ellen Renn's Memorial Mass, 11:00 am
Tues. 9/5-	Haiti Twinning Ministry: Light Dinner 6:00 pm, Meeting 6:30 pm-7:30 pm--Commons/Solidarity
9/11-	School Resumes @ Both Fr. Jacques Block & Saint Gabriel



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9/9-17-	Parish Haiti Solidarity Novena, (Brendan), Prior to Solidarity Week
9/16-	HTM Back to School Yard Sale, Benefits Lunch Fund at St. Gabriel, 9:00 am-2:00 pm @ Cherie's Yard
Sun. 9/24-	HTM Hosts Parish-Solidarity Dinner & Presentation "Bringing Hope" live music, dinner, raffle/scholarships 4:00 pm-5:30 pm-Commons
9/23/24-	Parish Haiti Solidarity Weekend (Prayer of the Faithful, Bulletin Note & Calendar of Activities/Resources, Hymn O Lespri Sen)
OCTOBER SCHOLARSHIPS	
Tues. Oct. 24-	Haiti Twinning Ministry: Light Dinner 6:00 pm, Meeting 6:30 pm-7:30 pm--Commons
Sun. Oct. 29-	Neil Walsh's Memorial Mass, 11:00 am

POST MEETING NOTES: Pen Pal Notes & Birthday/Greeting Cards: Please turn in notes for Fr. Fitho, Fr. Adelin, Fr. Jean-Marco, Fr. Ady, Fr. Bernard, & Pen Pals to Francesca via email, smithf236@verizon.net, September 20, 2023. Thanks to all who did in July & August & have already done so far in September. **Fr. Fitho and Pen Pals appreciated the notes very much.** Thank you Susie for preparing Birthday cards. **Fair Trade Coffee**, Just (-ice) for Haiti continues out of parish. POC: Patricia. [Fair Trade: A Just World Starts with You | Benjamin Conard | TEDxSUNYGeneseo](#). Many thanks for continuing purchasing this coffee in support of the Haitian farmers.



Dear Father Paul, friends of the Sacred Heart, and the greater community,

We want to share with you all the joy of Saint Gabriel Parish this summer. 100% of the students in the 9th Grade passed the National Exams! Our Summer Camp was a success. It was organized by the youth of the school for all grades. The activities were religious education, soccer, hiking, singing, dancing, swimming, and crafts. Currently, we are having the school and the clinic repainted. Also, we are busy with admission for the new school year which will start September 11th. We will be in communion of prayer with you during the month of September which is the month of Haiti Solidarity for our two parishes. We carry you and your family in our hearts and count on your prayers for the continuation of our twinning relationship. May peace reign in Haiti, in the US and in the world! Father Fitho, Pastor at Saint Gabriel | Father Fitho JEAN, Pastor at St. Gabriel Parish, Lascabobas, Haiti

RESOURCES

December 2022-September 2023 Dr. Tome Fame The Lambi's Call, A Haitian Journey

November 2022 [No Passport Required | Haitian Food on South Beach | Season 1 | PBS](#)

<https://www.pbs.org/video/haitian-food-southbeach-yqqydg/>

October 2022 [No Passport Required | A Tour of Little Haiti | Season 1 | PBS](#)

March-September 2022 [Fratelli tutti \(3 October 2020\) | Francis \(vatican.va\)](#) Download in PDF Introduction: [Fratelli Tutti Explained: Catholicism \(reddit.com\)](#) 13 minutes

Rick Steves **Hunger & Hope: Lessons from Ethiopia & Guatemala**, <https://youtu.be/pzSUqYaW8i4>

CST 101 Option for the Poor and the Vulnerable [CST 101: Option for the Poor and Vulnerable - YouTube](#)

CST 101 Life and Dignity of the Human Person [CST 101 | Life and Dignity of the Human Person - Bing video](#)

CST 101 Rights and Responsibilities [CST 101 | Rights and Responsibilities - YouTube](#) **CST 101 Solidarity** [CST 101 | Solidarity - YouTube](#) **The Dignity of Work & the Rights of Workers**

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=youtube+dignified+life+throuhg+work+catholic+socila+teaching&docid=607998083156281503&mid=C19D01E3A7A0202D78EAC19D01E3A7A0202D78EA&view=detail&FORM=VIRE>



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CRS: [Agroforestry in Coffee Farming for a Sustainable Enterprise | CRS FARM Project - Bing video](#)

Fonkoze Investing in Projects/Financial Sustainability—Fonkoze video an example of human development/micro loans

(Shoulder to Shoulder with Fonkoze: Ti Kredi - YouTube [FONKOZE: Who We Are - YouTube](#)

Fair Trade (Fair Trade: A Just World Starts with You | Benjamin Conard | TEDxSUNYGeneseo video)

